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NIC# 4437-83 17 June 1983 Jan ( 2 1 )

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM

: Herbert E. Meyer

Vice Chairman, National Intelligence Council

SUBJECT

: Soviet Missiles in Cuba

- 1. Should the subject of INF deployment and the Soviet response come up at this afternoon's meeting with Secretary Shultz, you might want to observe the extraordinary parallel that is emerging between Soviet statements now and in 1962.
- 2. In April, an advisor to Soviet arms control negotiations, when asked if the deployment of INF missiles in Europe would prompt Soviet missiles in Cuba, responded that "there is no need to do it." This statement by Major General Yuri Lebedev was echoed that same week by a member of the Soviet Central Committee.
- 3. On September 11, 1962 -- a time at which Soviet missiles were clearly being installed in Cuba -- the Soviet government authorized Tass to distribute the following:

The Government of the Soviet Union authorized Tass to state that there is no need for the Soviet Union to shift its weapons for the repulsion of aggression, for a retaliatory blow, to any other country, for instance Cuba. Our nuclear weapons are so powerful in their explosive force and the Soviet Union has such powerful rockets to carry these nuclear warheads, that there is no need to search for sites for them beyond the boundaries of the Soviet Union.

4. As I say, the similarity is striking.

Herbert E. Meyer

cc: DDI

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